UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/516,800	03/01/2000	Thomas J. Kolze	12-1038	2502

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Patent Counsel
TRW Incorporation
Space & Electronics Group
One Space Park E2/6072
Redondo Beach, CA   90278

EXAMINER
BAYARD, EMMANUEL

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2631	

DATE MAILED: 05/06/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 07-01)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>01 March 2000</u> .

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *3//00* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

    If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

        1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

        2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

        3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

    a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .   6)☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness

rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Burch et al

U.S. Patent No 5,680,422 in view of Gaudet U.S. Patent No 6,285,726 B1.

As per claims 1 and 16, Burch et al discloses a communication system, apparatus for

transporting a plurality of sampled signals from a first location to a second location comprising in

combination (see figs. 1-7: a source of one or more data signals (see fig.6 element 51) and one or

more clock signals (see fig.6 element 54) at said first location (see figs. 2, 6 elements 26, 50); a

reference clock generating (see fig.6 element 136 and col.6, lines 54-60) one or more reference

signals at said first location (see figs. 2, 6 elements 26, 50); a phase comparator is functionally

equivalent t o the claimed (phase difference estimator) (see fig.6 element 137 and col.6, lines 53-

67 and col.7, lines 11-20) for generating a phase signal representing at least an estimate of the

difference in phase between one of said clock signals and one of said reference signals; a

communication channel transmitting (see fig.2 element 28 and col.1, line 62) said one or more

data signals, said one or more clock signals and said phase signal to said second location.

However Burch et al does not teach a resampler filter located at said second location; a selector responsive to said phase signal for conditioning the resample filter in response to said phase signal, said conditioned resample filter being responsive to said one ore more data signals for generating one ore more resampled data signals at the second location.

Gauchet teaches an interpolator is functionally equivalent to the claimed (resampler filter) (see fig.5 element 106 and col.6, lines 15, 30) located at said second location; a selector (see fig.5 element 140 or 136 and col.8, lines 23-67 and col.9, lines 5-15) responsive to said phase signal for conditioning the resample filter in response to said phase signal, said conditioned resample filter being responsive to said one ore more data signals for generating one ore more resampled data signals at the second location.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the resample filter and the selector of Gauchet in to Burch et al as to adjust the clock signal by selecting a different phase of N available phases that are provided by a clock generation using an N:1 phase multiplexer and a secondary mux that provides further phase resolution using the interpolator as taught by Gauchet (see col.5, lines 60-64).

As per claims 2-5, the apparatus of Burch et al does include a memory or buffer (see fig.6 element 55). Furthermore implement such memory in a selector would have been obvious to one skilled in the art so that N available different phases which are stored in the memory could be appropriately selected to adjust the clock signal.

As per claim 6, the apparatus of Burch et al does include a second source or more clock signals located at the second location (see fig.7 element 150). However implementing such apparatus to clock one or more data signals from said resample filter would have obvious to one skilled in the art so that phase adjustment of data signals could accurately be determined during the operation.

As per claim 7, the apparatus of Burch et al does include a plurality of multiplexed data signals and a demultiplexer (see figs 1-7).

As per claim 8 , the apparatus of Burch et al does include extracting frame synch signal signals (see fig.6 element 53).

As per claim 9, the apparatus of Burch would include a first divided clock signal having a first frequency and a second divided clock signal having a second frequency so that the phase estimator could indicate whether a predefined edge of the write clock precede or follow a corresponding predefined edge of the reference clock.

As per claim 10, the apparatus of Burch et al does include a data insertion module (see fig.6 element 55 or 52).

As per claim 11, the apparatus of Burch et al does include frame synch signals (see fig.6 element 53).

As per claim 12, the apparatus of Burch et al does include a phase difference estimator (see fig.6 element 137).

As per claim 13, the apparatus of Burch would include a first divided clock signal having a first frequency and a second divided clock signal having a second frequency so that the phase estimator could indicate whether a predefined edge of the write clock precede or follow a corresponding predefined edge of the reference clock.

As per claim 14, the apparatus of Burch et al would include a packetizing module to transmit said data signals as to enhance the system capability and further facilitate the synchronization the data signals at different phases during the operation.

As per claim 15, the apparatus of Burch et al does include a plurality of multiplexed data signals (see figs. 1-7) .

As per claims 17-19, the apparatus of Burch et al does include a memory or buffer or storage (see fig.6 element 55). Furthermore implement such memory in a conditioning would have been obvious to one skilled in the art so that N available different phases which are stored in the memory could be appropriately selected to adjust the clock signal.

As per claim 20, the apparatus of Burch et al does include a storing element (see fig.6 element 55).

As per claim 21, the apparatus of Burch et al does include a unsynchronized clocking with said data signal at the first location (fig.6 element 51).

As per claims 22 and 30, the apparatus of Burch et al does include a plurality of multiplexed data signals and a demultiplexer (see figs 1-7).

As per claims 23, 26 and 27, the apparatus of Burch et al does include frame synch from said multiplexer (see fig.6 element 53).

As per claims 24 and 28, the apparatus of Burch would include a first divided clock signal having a first frequency and a second divided clock signal having a second frequency so that the phase estimator could indicate whether a predefined edge of the write clock precede or follow a corresponding predefined edge of the reference clock.

As per claim 25, the apparatus of Burch et al does include inserting said phase signal into said plurality of channels (see figs. 1-6).

As per claim 29, the apparatus of Burch et al would include transmitting said data signals, said clock signal and said phase signal in packets to said second location as to enhance the system capability and further facilitate the synchronization the data signals at different phases during the operation.

Conclusion

3.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Wang U.S. Patent No 5,563,8891 teaches a waiting time jitter.

Menzi et al U.S. Patent No 6,470,033 B1 teaches a Padding process for Plesiochronous data transmission.

Van der Putten et al U.S. Patent No method to transparently transport an incoming clock signal.

Art Unit: 2631

Suzuki U.S. Patent No 5,694,174 teaches a television system.

Brun et al U.S. Patent no 5,519,737 teaches an adapter for the connection to a clear-channel.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Emmanuel Bayard whose telephone number is (703) 308-9573. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00 AM - 5:30 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham, can be reached on (703) 305-4378. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 872-9314.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3800.

Emmanuel Bayard
Patent Examiner

April 28, 2003